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EDITORIALS BY JUDGE C. C. GOODWIN

## Is There A Hell?

A BOOK with the above title has been issued in New York which contains the opinions of sixteen of the "makers of religious thought" on the question of man's hereafter.

They all support the doctrine of the soul's immortality, and while ignoring the old-fashioned material hell, insist that the souls of the good will fare much better in the hereafter than the souls of the bad.

The men subscribing to this are all eminent clergymen.

There is nothing more strange about a future life for men than is the present life. Called from nothing; appearing here more helpless and dependent than any other creature; still in from twenty to sixty years ringing the world with his words or deeds and then growing still and turning back to dust; men contemplating this, and remembering the affections formed in that brief time; the tearing of heart strings at the separation, revolt against the thought that this is all.

They look at the stars in their processions and realize that only an infinite wisdom could have framed their order and their splendor.

They note the seasons in their rounds and mark that after the exhaustion of producing the harvest, the sun wanders further and further away and the tired earth grows wan and cold and wrapping the winding-sheet of the snow around it sinks into a sleep that looks like that phenomenon which we call death. But when the sleep is over the sun returns; the winter's shroud melts away; even under the snow flowers are found; then comes the soft air; the buds appear; the trees put on anew their robes; the birds return and rebuild their houses; the spring advances into the summer and that is followed by another harvest. Is man lost in this eternal progression?

That he should be would be a violation of every lesson that is taught by the operations of nature.

But the bread we eat is made from grain that at first was but wild grass that made pasture for animals. It had to be cultivated to give it value.

By his discipline Luther Burbank has converted what was but a repellant plant into an article of food more wonderful than was ever seen before. He has pruned and engrafted fruit trees until he has doubled both the quantity and quality of their fruit. In the same way he has converted a worthless weed into a glorious flower.

But he has been able to do this by finding an original element in the fruit or flower that had been dormant from the first. We talk of good and bad men. By that we mean only that the germ of good is more developed in the one than in the other. Many good men produce only

half the good that they should. They are waiting only that the original element of good within them may be more fully awakened.

Many bad men are waiting merely for the magic touch that will cause them to shed their thorns and bring forth their fruit. With many this will not be done in this life, but all the lessons that we gather make the foundation for the hope of a higher life. And it seems to us that we have no authority for saying that in that higher life the degrees of happiness will be measured by our lives here. Rather it seems more reasonable to say that in the ceaseless upward procession a certain station will have to be reached before men on earth or souls beyond will finally receive the light to understand that real happiness comes only through love and justice and devotion to duty.

## A Public Enemy

IN 1910 Col. Roosevelt returned from his trip to Africa. The glamor of his journey the attention paid him in Germany and England and other countries of the old world, had so swelled his cranium that he doubtless believed that he was the very greatest of all the great men known in history. The ovation which was given him in New York City on his arrival was the finishing stroke. He believed that he was not only the greatest, but the best loved of men.

Politics in New York were in a normal condition. The old parties were arranging to have their conventions and it was expected on all sides, among Democrats as well as Republicans, that there would be a Republican victory. But the Colonel could not keep out of the campaign. He suddenly appeared on the stage and explained that the pressure upon him by those who wanted a pure government was so great that he but followed an imperative duty in mixing in. There was a pressure sure enough, but it was not from without but from within his own anatomy. He entered the Republican convention and at once took charge. He turned down the candidate for governor whom the convention and the Republicans generally wanted and had a candidate of his own selection named, with the result that his candidate was repudiated by the people at the polls and the Democratic candidate was triumphantly elected. The defeat was so humiliating that the Colonel was for a good while silenced. When he appeared next it was as a progressive on a platform which was a hotch-potch of principles which every crank in politics had suggested; with the money of Mr. Perkins and the help of Democratic votes at the primaries he secured a big delegation to go to Chicago and yell for him. There he insisted that delegates, against whom contests had been filed, should not vote until the contests were settled, then had contests enough filed to shut out so many regular delegates that his delegates would be in the majority and because the trick failed, he got himself nominated in a special convention and went into the campaign with the natural result that the Democratic candidate was elected.

He has started in to repeat this year his 1910 performance.

We hope that Mr. Barnes will press his libel suit and will engage counsel that cannot be bulldozed, but who will bring out all the facts. If he does, he will come so near proving that what Colonel Roosevelt did in 1912, was so transparent that the natural reference is irresistible that it was under a contract with the Democratic leaders, and that the "lease and bond,"—to use a measure phrase—to work the Republican party to a finish, still continues. It is a pity that Wm. M. Stewart cannot be called back to prosecute that case. It is necessary that the showing be made to make clear to the country the real character and design of the doughty Colonel, what he really is and what he aims to do, if he can fool the people a little longer. The dispatches indicate that he proposes to put up a big fight on Barnes. We hope that he will. A man should not go into court seeking redress unless he has clean hands, but neither should another man rest his innocence on the bad character of the man assailing him. Roosevelt used his great office when president, to stamp into the ground the character of some men the lachets of whose shoes he was not worthy to unloose, and has kept that trail of his warm ever since he left the office.

We hope for him, now that he is assailed in return a full and fair hearing, but no bulldozing must be allowed and no screening behind a once high reputation to evade facts.

## The Status Of Panama

WE knew from memory that there was no binding allegiance on the part of Panama to the Colombian confederation, but could not prove it, so stopped insisting upon it. But in the New York Times is the full history from the pen of Wilfred Schoff, the secretary of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. The substance of it all is, that the Federation of the United States of Colombia was formed December 17th, 1819, and the Constitution was promulgated July 12th, 1820.

The state of Panama was then a province of old Spain, but the next year, 1821, she revolted and without help became an independent state and so remained until she joined the confederacy, but reserving her sovereignty. In 1830 Panama gave the confederation notice that unless Boliver ceased his assumption of autocratic power, she would assume her sovereignty, and this was only settled by Boliver's resignation as president. In 1841, after five years of war, Panama gained her independence from Colombia. A year later, under the promise that she should have a constitution recognizing her sovereignty, she rejoined the confederacy.

In 1855, Panama was recognized as an independent sovereign state. In 1860 Panama and several other states drew away from the confederacy and the then government of the confederacy recognized their right to do so.

In September, 1861, a new agreement of federation, signed by the president of the state of Panama and the commissioner plenipotentiary of